

FOURTH ANNUAL COUNTYWIDE MAT PROVIDER MEETING
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On Thursday, April 30, 2015, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) hosted the fourth annual Countywide Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (MAT) Provider Meeting.

The first part of the day was attended by MAT supervisors and administrators from partner agencies. The second half was largely attended by MAT assessors. Altogether nearly 300 people from 50+ directly operated and county-contracted MAT provider agencies attended the meeting, representing all the service areas.

The primary speaker for both sessions was Marty Beyer, Ph.D. Dr. Beyer is a member of the Katie A. panel for Los Angeles County. She presented information about her study of the MAT assessment program. Laura Andrade, Ph.D., a MAT Program Manager at DCFS, also presented her outcomes study of MAT cases seen within the county.



MAT is a collaborative effort between LACDMH, DCFS and county-contracted MAT provider agencies. The MAT program has been operational since October 2009, and is

designed to ensure the immediate and comprehensive assessment of children and youth entering out-of-home placement.

MAT assessments are given when a child is newly detained. The assessment makes sure all the needs of the child and family are assessed when a child/youth enters foster care. The information gathered is then used to determine what types of services will be given to the child/youth for the most appropriate placement, while also linking him/her to services and supports. The MAT process assesses strengths and underlying needs, family history, mental health, education, development, medical/dental health, hearing and language, and vocational strengths/needs.